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MAR 09 2005

In re Application of:	:	
MAURICE SMITH et al.	:	
Application No. 10/672,211	:	DECISION ON PETITION
Filed: September 26, 2003	:	TO MAKE SPECIAL
Attorney Docket No. 33063	:	

This is a decision on the petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102, filed September 26, 2003, to make the above-identified application special.

Petitioner requests that the above-identified application be made special under the accelerated examination procedure set forth in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (M.P.E.P.), Section 708.02, Item XI: Inventions for Counter Terrorism.

A grantable petition to make special under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102 and in accordance with M.P.E.P., Section 708.02, Item XI, must be accompanied by the petition fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(h) and a statement explaining how the invention contributes to countering terrorism.

The petition contains the petition fee and a statement in accordance with M.P.E.P., Section 708.02, Item XI.

For the above stated reasons, the petition is GRANTED.

The application is being forwarded to the examiner for expedited prosecution.

If the examiner determines that restriction is necessary, he/she will follow the established telephone practice to resolve the restriction. If applicant elects with traverse the application will be forwarded to the Special Programs Examination unit to vacate this decision, and the application will be taken up by the examiner for action in its regular turn.

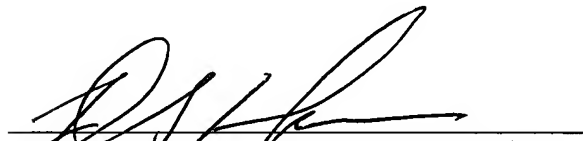
If the examiner can make this application special without prejudice to any possible interfering applications, and he/she should make a rigid search for such, he/she is authorized to do so for the next action. Should the application be rejected, the application will not be considered special for the subsequent action unless the applicant promptly makes a bona fide effort to place the application in condition for allowance, even if it is necessary to have an interview with the examiner to accomplish this purpose.

If the examiner finds any interfering application for the same subject matter, he/she should consider such application simultaneously with this application and should state in the official letter of such application that she/he is taking it out of its turn because of possible interference.

Should an appeal be taken in this application or should this application becomes involved in an interference, consideration of the appeal and the interference will be expedited by all Patent and Trademark Office officials concerned, contingent likewise upon diligent prosecution by the applicant.

After allowance, this application will be given priority for printing. See M.P.E.P. Section 1309.

Inquiries regarding this decision should be directed to Jose' G. Dees at (571) 272-1569.



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